Dereservations of SO items in SSI

2765. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether 50 items of knitwear, certain agricultural implements, auto components, in the Small Scale Sector are being dereserved;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied its impact on existing Small Scale Industries; and

(c) the steps taken to mitigate the problems of Small Scale Industries due to dereservations of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) In the Union Budget, 2002-2003 presented in Parliament on 28th February, 2002, Government have proposed the dereservation of over 50 items of knitwear, certain agricultural implements, auto-components, some chemicals & drugs and others.

(b) The issue of reservation/de-reservation of items for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector is reviewed continuously by the Advisory Committee constituted under the Industries Development & Regulation Act, 1951. These reviews consider various relevant aspects including *inter-alia,* domestic & global competitiveness, potential for employment & export, technical feasibility and economic viability of manufacturing the reserved items in the small-scale sector etc. In addition, the Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) also consults various stakeholders before taking the decision.

(c) The Comprehensive Policy Package for SSIs announced on 30th August, 2000 addresses this issue by providing support to small scale industries in enhancing their competitiveness both domestically and globally.